IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

HOGARTH, et al. Group Art Unit: 1633 Serial No.: 10/517,251 Examiner: Wehbé, A.M.S. Filed: December 7, 2004 Conf. No.: 2961 Attv. File No.: 5644AL-1 COMMENTS ON STATEMENT For: FCYRIIA TRANSGENIC ANIMAL MODEL OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE FOR AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE" Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Applicants wish to comment on the Examiner's reasons for allowance contained within the Notice of Allowability mailed November 23, 2007. Specifically, the Examiner states that the claims have been amended to "indicate that the transgenic mouse spontaneously develops arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus...." Notice of Allowability, page 7 (emphasis added). Applicants note that allowed claims in fact recite a transgenic mouse "susceptible to spontaneous development of an autoimmune disease selected from the group consisting of arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus." Accordingly, the claims are not limited to a mouse that develops both arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus. Rather, the claims recite the spontaneous development of either arthritis or systemic lupus erythematosus.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 303-863-9700. In the event that any fees are due in connection with this response, please debit Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.

Dated: January 30, 2008 /John C. Stolpa/

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